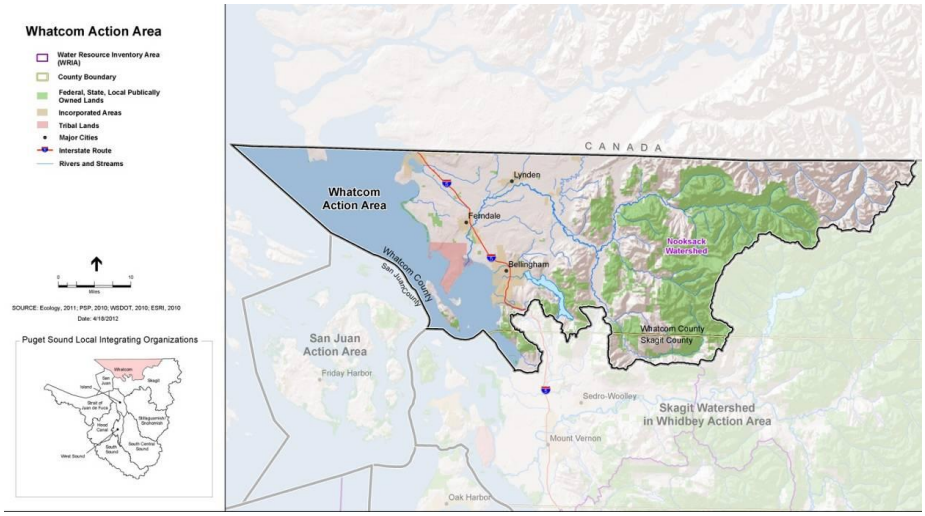
The Action Agenda in Whatcom County and WRIA 1

Profile

The Nooksack Watershed (Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 1) is located at the northwest corner of Washington State and encompasses the northeast corner of Puget Sound. WRIA 1 covers 1,410 square miles, largely in Whatcom County, but extends 21 square miles into Skagit County and 147 square miles in British Columbia, Canada. It is one of two Action Areas with streams crossing the international boundary with Canada. The Nooksack River, the watershed's namesake, originates from glaciers on Mount Shuksan in North Cascade National Park and Mount Baker, the highest point in the watershed at 10,778 feet, which is located in the Mount Baker – Snoqualmie National Forest. From the headwaters, the Nooksack River flows westerly through forest and farm land and past small cities to reach sea level at Bellingham Bay. Mount Baker is an active volcano and one of the snowiest places on earth. In 1999 the Mount Baker Ski Area set a world record with 95 feet of total snowfall in a single season. Yet despite some banner years for skiers, the many glaciers on Mount Baker have generally been in rapid retreat since the 1980s. Spring and early summer snowmelt feed the three forks that combine to form the mainstem Nooksack River near Deming while glacial meltwater continues to feed two of the three branches, the North and Middle Forks, from mid-summer to early fall once the snowmelt is complete. Rainfall and ground water each contribute flow to the Nooksack River and are the primary sources of flow for the lowland tributaries and independent coastal streams.



The Nooksack River has three main forks – the North Fork, Middle Fork, and South Fork. Other major river systems in WRIA 1 include the Lummi River, Dakota Creek and other independent coastal streams, and tributaries to the Fraser River in Canada including the Sumas River. Fishtrap and Bertrand Creeks are tributaries to the Nooksack River and both originate in British Columbia. There are more than 3,000 total miles of freshwater courses, including streams, rivers, lakes, ponds and wetlands, as well as 155 miles of marine shoreline in Whatcom County.

The Whatcom County portion of WRIA 1 is home to over 200,000 residents, with approximately 81,000 living in the City of Bellingham. Whatcom County is located between two major metro areas, Vancouver, BC supporting over two million people 30 miles north of the County and King/Snohomish Counties including the cities of Everett and Seattle also supporting over two million people living 60 to 100 miles south of the County.

Approximately 85,300 acres, or 11 percent, of Whatcom County land is designated for agricultural use although agricultural production occurs on more than 140,000 acres. This land-base supports robust dairy, berry, and seed potato production. Whatcom County's dairy industry ranks second out of 34 dairy-producing counties in the state and is in the top five percent of dairy production nationwide with farm gate value of $190 million dollars per year. Half of the 103,000 milk cows in Puget Sound are in Whatcom County. The County also produces more than 65 percent of the nation's raspberries, with an estimated value of $65 million in 2011. Other major crops include strawberries, blueberries, greenhouse and nursery items, poultry, eggs, and seed potatoes. Approximately nine percent of Whatcom County's land use is agriculture, while 82 percent of the land is considered forest and rural. Cities and urban growth areas account for seven percent of the land use. Other land uses consist of mining, industrial, and commercial development. There are two refineries and an aluminum smelter operating in the Cherry Point area. Deep water access at Cherry point is a factor in future industrial activity at Cherry Point including the proposed coal transport facility. The proposed facility would accommodate Panamax (65,000 to 85,000 tons) and Capesize (160,000-180,000 tons) vessels at this deep-draft facility. Western Washington University, the Port of Bellingham, and traditional commercial forestry and fishing also contribute to the region's economy. The former pulp mill site on Bellingham Bay is in the process of redevelopment from a heavy industrial site to a mixed use waterfront with parks, businesses, and public moorage that will be linked to downtown Bellingham, while portions of the Whatcom Waterway are reserved for deepwater commercial use.

The reservation lands of the Nooksack Tribe are located primarily along and in the vicinity of the Nooksack River and its tributaries. The Lummi Indian Nation lands include the Lummi and Sandy Point peninsulas, Portage Island, and associated tidelands. The Nooksack River flows through the Lummi Reservation as it discharges into Bellingham Bay. Both tribes exercise treaty rights to fish, hunt, and gather throughout the Nooksack watershed and the adjoining marine areas of WRIA 1. Shellfish harvest is an important activity for local tribes and a major commercial industry for the region. Commercial, ceremonial, and subsistence harvest of salmon in both marine and freshwater habitats are of particular importance to Lummi Nation and Nooksack Indian Tribe members. Recreational shellfish harvest is an active pursuit by area residents and recreational visitors at Semiahmoo Spit, Birch Bay, and Chuckanut Bay.

The relatively shallow depths of Birch Bay result in warm water temperatures and increased recreational activities in the summer. Of all Washington State Parks, Birch Bay State Park was the most visited for recreational shellfish harvesting in 2009. Lake Whatcom, another popular recreational and residential area, is also the drinking water reservoir for Bellingham and parts of Whatcom County. Winter

recreation enthusiasts rely on the proximity to the Mount Baker Ski Area for easy access to snow sports. The residents of, and visitors to, Whatcom County, university students, tribal citizens, and pioneer descendents place a high value on the diverse environment and economy of Whatcom County. There is active participation in marine resource committees, watershed councils, and education and restoration programs related to the continued health of the ecosystem.

Unique Ecosystem Characteristics and Assets

Mount Baker has been a landmark since humans first began to navigate and explore this corner of Puget Sound, and the abundant snowfields provide water and electricity for communities in Puget Sound. In addition to the striking natural beauty of Whatcom County, the region supports habitat types from alpine headwaters to tidal bays, along with farming, fishing, and forestry operations. This area sustains every native Pacific salmonid species, and includes unusual types such as riverine sockeye salmon and even-year pink. The Chinook populations in the North, Middle and South Forks of the Nooksack River have distinct genetic and timing traits that are considered to be crucial in retaining the diversity and viability of threatened Puget Sound Chinook salmon overall. All of the salmon species depend on the nearshore habitats for food and shelter as they adjust between freshwater and saltwater.

The marine shorelines of Whatcom County produce surf smelt, sand lance, and anchovy, along with other fish and shellfish species. Birch Bay, Chuckanut Bay, and Lummi Island have recreational shellfish harvesting. Drayton Harbor, Lummi Bay, and Portage Bay have tribal and commercial shellfish growing areas, while Alden Bank offers shallow offshore habitat for isolated populations of geoduck, sea urchins, and clams. Several of these areas are currently prohibited, conditionally approved, or threatened for shellfish harvest due to poor water quality. The Cherry Point area was historically the most highly productive area for herring in Puget Sound, producing an estimated 32 percent of all the known herring spawning in the Sound, prior to a precipitous decline of 94 percent from 1973 to 2000.

Natural features and human activities have made Whatcom County an important area for migratory waterfowl, raptors, and other birds. The nearshore areas have abundant food sources for marine birds; and the floodplains, wetlands, and agricultural fields provide forage areas. Birch Bay is designated as a "Shoreline of Statewide Significance," the only marine shoreline in Whatcom County with this designation. Greater Bellingham Bay, including Chuckanut and Portage bays, Drayton Harbor, Semiahmoo Spit, and Birch Bay are portions of the Pacific Flyway and are stopovers for the migratory birds' flight path between the Fraser River estuary and Skagit Bay.

Local Action Agenda Process

The Local Integrating Organization (LIO) for the Whatcom Action Area is a function of the existing integrated governance structure for WRIA 1 program management (Figure 1, Local Implementation Structure section). A Whatcom LIO team that will support implementation of local action agenda priorities within the existing integrated governance structure will be established as part of the LIO coordination work plan and grant funding recently approved by the WRIA 1 Management Team and Puget Sound Partnership (February 2012). The LIO implementation team will support the work identified in the LIO work plan, which includes completing a local update to the Puget Sound Action Agenda that identifies sequence and relative priorities of actions, resource needs, responsible party for implementing actions, and timelines. The local update will be submitted under the process that the

Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council establishes for the local Action Agenda updates being prepared by LIOs that are still evolving.

As an initial step, the WRIA 1 Management Team and watershed planning and salmon recovery staff teams and other interested individuals worked to synthesize existing strategies and actions being implemented locally that address Puget Sound Action Agenda priorities, and establish linkages to Puget Sound Partnership recovery targets. The information presented in this March 2012 profile represents those efforts and is the basis for the LIO implementation team's continued work. A prioritization of the strategies and actions will be the work of the LIO work team that is in process of forming.

Key Threats/Pressures

At this time, the LIO has identified 15 regional pressures using the Puget Sound Partnership categories and explanations. In the summary table below, the pressures are listed alphabetically and organized geographically by aggregated watershed areas. The pressures are organized geographically because of the unique characteristics and land uses within WRIA 1. The table is a summary of a more detailed table of pressures and processes that will be used to sequence and prioritize local strategies as part of the previously referenced LIO work plan. Additional vetting and prioritizing of the pressures will occur as part of the LIO work plan. The aggregated watersheds are consistent with the aggregations in the WRIA 1 *2010 State of the Watershed Report*.

	GEOGRAPHIC AREAS/AGGREGATED WATERSHEDS						
Key Pressures	**Nooksack Forks Watersheds**	**Lower Nooksack Watersheds**	**Coastal North Watersheds** *includes adjacent marine waters*	**Coastal West Watersheds** *includes adjacent marine waters*	**Coastal South Watersheds** *includes adjacent marine waters*	**Lake Whatcom Watersheds**	**Sumas River Watersheds**
Agriculture, Livestock Grazing; Agricultural Runoff	x	x	x	x			x
Aquatic Animal Harvesting *(includes threat of illegal fishing)*	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Culverts	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Dams	x						
Freshwater Levees/Floodgates (*includes outlet dam)*	x	x				x	
Freshwater Shoreline Infrastructure (*armoring, docks, bulkheads, other overwater structures)*	x	x				x	
Industrial, Domestic and Municipal Wastewater	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Invasive Species	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Marine Shoreline Infrastructure (*armoring, docks, bulkheads, other overwater structures)*			x	x	x		
Oil and Hazardous Material Spills (*includes pipelines/tanker trucks/trains/marinas/ports*)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Recreational Activities	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

	GEOGRAPHIC AREAS/AGGREGATED WATERSHEDS						
Key Pressures	**Nooksack Forks Watersheds**	**Lower Nooksack Watersheds**	**Coastal North Watersheds** *includes adjacent marine waters*	**Coastal West Watersheds** *includes adjacent marine waters*	**Coastal South Watersheds** *includes adjacent marine waters*	**Lake Whatcom Watersheds**	**Sumas River Watersheds**
Residential and Commercial Development; Runoff from Built Environment (Unmanaged Runoff)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Timber Production (*includes Lummi Reservation*)	x		x	x	x	x	x
Transportation and Service Corridors (in WRIA 1 includes rail, roadways, ports, marinas, ferry terminal, border crossings, pipelines)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Water Withdrawals/ Diversions	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Opportunities, Priorities, and Near-Term Actions

A significant amount of work is underway across WRIA 1 to advance habitat protection, habitat restoration, reduction of pollution, resolution of instream flow and out of stream water use, infrastructure development and maintenance, and port development. The strategies listed below reflect the work that is underway, and were synthesized from existing planning documents, strategic plans, and annual work plans that WRIA 1 organizations and entities are implementing. The next step in the LIO process will be to sequence, establish relative priorities, identify near-term actions, resource needs, and timelines. The strategies are grouped by categories as listed in the Draft 2011 Puget Sound Action Agenda, and are a summary of a detailed WRIA 1 cross-walk spreadsheet of strategies to Action Agenda sub-strategies that is available online. The strategies listed will be further vetted, refined, and prioritized as part of the LIO work plan. The detailed spreadsheet that is available online will be the tool used by the LIO to complete the prioritization tasks.

Upland and Terrestrial

- Continue updating and implementing local Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO), Growth Management Act (GMA), Shoreline Management Plan (SMP), Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan (CFHMP), and National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- Continue implementing, enforcing, and monitoring land use measures adopted for watersheds with designated overlay zones.
- Continue to identify key areas for preservation through voluntary conservation easements, acquisitions, and/or other means.
- Continue implementing *WRIA 1 Salmonid Recovery Plan* key actions.
- Implement habitat restoration projects.
- Manage invasive plant species.
- Investigate and manage invasive aquatic species in Lake Whatcom.
- Monitor the effects of forest practices on watershed processes and stream sedimentation and temperature changes.
- Limit forest and farm conversions to other uses such as residential, commercial, or industrial uses.

- Continue implementing *WRIA 1 Watershed Management Plan-Phase 1*
- Implement instream flow restoration projects

Marine and Nearshore

- Continue implementing local CAO, GMA, and SMP plans
- Continue implementing, enforcing, and monitoring land use measures adopted for watersheds with designated overlay zones
- Continue to identify key areas for preservation through conservation easements, acquisitions, and/or other means.
- Continue implementing the *WRIA 1 Salmonid Recovery Plan*
- Continue implementing the *WRIA 1 Watershed Management Plan-Phase 1*
- Complete a nearshore and estuary strategic plan for assessment, restoration, and protection projects that includes a conceptual model of habitat connectivity for purposes of prioritizing projects, and that is coordinated with other planning efforts (e.g., Salmon Recovery, Shoreline Management)
- Coordinate/collaborate with Port of Bellingham and City of Bellingham on restoration projects and opportunities for public access in context with the waterfront redevelopment
- Implement habitat restoration projects
- Complete/implement the Cherry Point Aquatic Reserve management plan
- Continue implementing the Bellingham Bay Pilot Project
- Establish and implement the Northern Chuckanut Bay Shellfish Recovery Plan
- Continue implementing the Shellfish Protection District Plans (includes Drayton Harbor, Portage Bay, and Birch Bay)

Pollution Reduction

- Provide technical and cost share assistance to landowners for CREP and other agricultural best management practice (BMP) assistance programs
- Implement National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) municipal and industrial permits
- Continue implementing comprehensive stormwater management plans
- Continue implementing and improving regulatory compliance and enforcement for reduction of nutrient and pathogen loading
- Implement onsite sewage system operation and maintenance programs including continued inspections of on-site septic systems (OSS), community trainings, and low interest loan programs.
- Implement water quality improvement projects identified in approved Shellfish Protection District plans including OSS operation and maintenance and agricultural BMP technical and financial assistance.
- Improve spill response capabilities in Lake Whatcom watershed and marinas and ports as identified.
- Coordinate and support implementation of education and outreach plans associated with urban landscapes (potential impacts and best management practices to address impacts).
- Provide technical and cost share assistance to woodlot owners to develop conservation plans
- Limit forest and farm conversions
- Enforce forest practices
- Implement Nooksack River total maximum daily load (TMDL)

Strategic Leadership and Collaboration

- Coordinate and implement comprehensive monitoring programs as part of the adaptive management element of approved plans
- Work cooperatively to identify research and monitoring needs to fill data gaps associated with marine and freshwater ecosystems.
- Continue working locally and regionally with British Columbia on transboundary issues including water quality, water quantity, and fish habitat.
- Continue to work cooperatively with farming community to maintain the agricultural base including investigating a natural resource marketplace, implementing agriculture strategic plan, and prepare and implement conservation plans
- Build and/or support institutional capacity to implement priority actions identified in approved plans. This strategy includes identifying opportunities to leverage funding through partnerships, and continuing to investigate and identify funding strategies for priority actions.
- Integrate natural resources decision making at the decision-maker and policy levels, and provide local input to Puget Sound Partnership planning efforts through the LIO structure.
- Implement Lower Nooksack Strategy including preparing water budget to support water resource management, initiating an update to the Coordinated Water System Plan that includes out of stream water uses, and continue monitoring stream flow at key stations identified through the WRIA 1 watershed management project.

The WRIA 1's working document that crosswalks the draft strategies with the August 16, 2011 draft Action Agenda strategies is available online at:
http://www.mypugetsound.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=321&Itemid=238

Link to Recovery Targets

The Nooksack Watershed is critically important to accomplishing the regional recovery targets. There are many activities in WRIA 1 that will contribute to regional recovery targets. The table below summarizes linkages between local strategies and Puget Sound Partnership recovery targets. Further vetting and linkages of local priorities with regional targets will be a focus of the Whatcom LIO in 2012.[24]

PUGET SOUND RECOVERY TARGETS	LOCAL STRATEGIES
Onsite Sewage Systems	• Implement onsite sewage system operation and maintenance programs including continued inspections of OSS, community trainings, and low interest loan programs. • Implement water quality improvement projects identified in approved Shellfish Protection District plans including OSS operation and maintenance and agricultural BMP technical and financial assistance. • Continue implementing and improving regulatory enforcement and compliance for reduction of nutrient and pathogen loading.
Swimming Beaches	• Continue implementing and improving regulatory enforcement and compliance for reduction of nutrient and pathogen loading.
Shellfish Beds	• Establish and implement Northern Chuckanut Bay Shellfish Recovery Plan. • Continue implementing Shellfish Protection District Plans.

[24] See WRIA 1's working document that crosswalks the draft strategies with the August 16, 2011 draft Action Agenda strategies available online at http://www.mypugetsound.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=321&Itemid=238

PUGET SOUND RECOVERY TARGETS	LOCAL STRATEGIES
	• Implement water quality improvement projects identified in approved Shellfish Protection District plans including OSS operation and maintenance and agricultural BMP technical and financial assistance. • Implement Nooksack River TMDL. • Continue implementing, enforcing, and monitoring land use measures adopted for watersheds with designated overlay zones.
Chinook	• Continue implementing *WRIA 1 Salmonid Recovery Plan* key actions. • Continue to identify key areas for preservation through voluntary conservation easements, acquisitions, and/or other means. • Implement habitat restoration projects. • Work cooperatively to identify research and monitoring needs to fill data gaps associated with marine and freshwater ecosystems. • Ensure forest practices are enforced. • Harvest and hatchery programs. • Land use programs.
Pacific Herring	• Complete and implement the Cherry Point Aquatic Reserve management plan. • Work cooperatively to identify research and monitoring needs to fill data gaps associated with marine and freshwater ecosystems.
Shoreline Armoring	• Continue implementing SMP. • Continue implementing CAO. • Implement levee setback and/or riprap removal/replacement projects. • Collaborate with Port of Bellingham and City of Bellingham on restoration projects and opportunities for public access in context with the waterfront redevelopment. • Complete a nearshore and estuary strategic plan for assessment, restoration, and protection projects that includes a conceptual model of habitat connectivity for purposes of prioritizing projects, and that is coordinated with other planning efforts (e.g., Salmon Recovery, Shoreline Management).
Eelgrass	• Work cooperatively to identify research and monitoring needs to fill data gaps associated with marine and freshwater ecosystems. • Complete and implement the Cherry Point Aquatic Reserve management plan.
Land Cover and Land Development	• Continue updating and implementing local CAO, GMA, SMP, and NFIP plans. • Continue implementing, enforcing, and monitoring land use measures adopted for watersheds with designated overlay zones. • Limit forest and farm conversions. • Coordinate and support implementation of education and outreach plans associated with urban landscapes (potential impacts and best management practices to address impacts). • Provide technical and cost share assistance to woodlot owners to develop conservation plans.
Flood Plains	• Implement key actions of CFHMP that benefit habitat including levee lowering or setback, riprap removal or replacement projects, and flood overflow corridors. • Review and condition flood plain development to be consistent with the FEMA biological opinion. • Continue implementing key actions in *WRIA 1 Salmonid Recovery Plan.* • Continue implementing CAO and SMP.
Estuaries	• Continue implementing SMP. • Complete a nearshore and estuary strategic plan for assessment, restoration, and protection projects that includes a conceptual model of habitat connectivity for

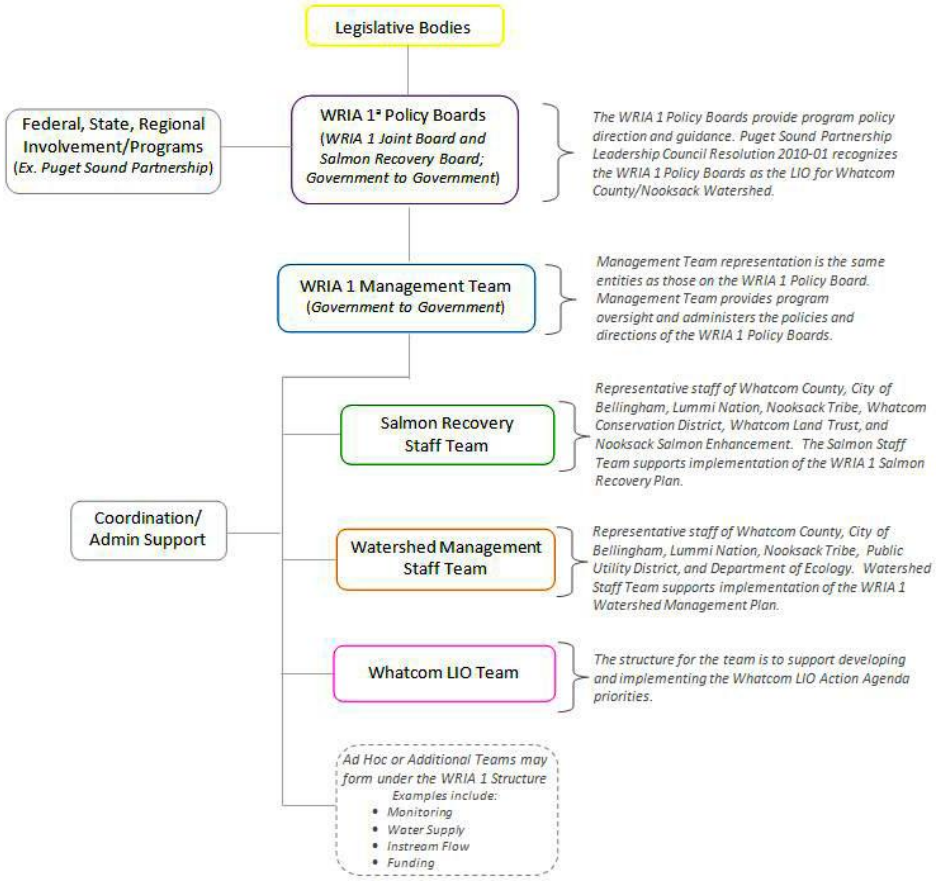
PUGET SOUND RECOVERY TARGETS	LOCAL STRATEGIES
	purposes of prioritizing projects, and that is coordinated with other planning efforts (e.g., Salmon Recovery, Shoreline Management). • Work cooperatively to identify research and monitoring needs to fill data gaps associated with marine and freshwater ecosystems. • Analyze alternative and implement lower Nooksack river and estuary restoration projects. • Implement coastal stream estuary restoration projects.
Summer Stream Flows	• Continue negotiating instream flow recommendations. • Implement instream flow restoration projects. • Implement Lower Nooksack Strategy including preparing water budget to support water resource management, initiating an update to the Coordinated Water System Plan that includes out of stream water uses, and continue monitoring stream flow at key stations identified through the WRIA 1 watershed management project.
Water Quality (FW/MW)	• Manage invasive plant species. • Provide technical and cost share assistance to landowners for CREP and other agricultural BMP assistance programs. • Implement NPDES municipal and industrial permits. • Continue implementing comprehensive stormwater management plans. • Continue implementing and improving regulatory compliance and enforcement for reduction of nutrient and pathogen loading. • Implement water quality improvement projects identified in approved Shellfish Protection District plans. • Investigate and manage invasive aquatic species in Lake Whatcom. • Improve spill response capabilities in Lake Whatcom watershed and marinas and ports as identified. • Coordinate and support implementation of education and outreach plans associated with urban landscapes (potential impacts and best management practices to address impacts). • Provide technical and cost share assistance to woodlot owners to develop conservation plans. • Implement Nooksack River TMDL. • Complete and implement the South Fork temperature TMDL. • Coordinate and implement comprehensive monitoring programs as part of the adaptive management element of approved plans. • Work cooperatively to identify research and monitoring needs to fill data gaps associated with marine and freshwater ecosystems including the Cherry Point development.
Marine Sediment Quality	• Continue implementing Bellingham Bay Pilot Project. • Work cooperatively to identify research and monitoring needs to fill data gaps associated with marine and freshwater ecosystems.
Toxics in Fish	• Continue implementing Bellingham Bay Pilot Project. • Work cooperatively to identify research and monitoring needs to fill data gaps associated with marine and freshwater ecosystems.

Local Implementation Structure

The WRIA 1 Policy Boards are the local integrating organization (LIO) for the Nooksack Watershed and Whatcom County geography, and were officially recognized by the Puget Sound Partnership's Leadership Council in November of 2010. The integrated governance structure for WRIA 1 as depicted in Figure 1 was an existing structure prior to accepting the function of the LIO. Under this structure, the WRIA 1 Policy Boards provide policy direction and guidance for integrated programs and are supported by the WRIA 1 Management Team and program implementation teams (i.e., Watershed Staff Team and Salmon Recovery Staff Team work on watershed plan and salmon recovery plan implementation, respectively). Further work is underway to develop the role and activities of the implementation team (temporarily identified as the Whatcom LIO Team in Figure 1). The LIO work plan and grant received in February 2012 will support the work to develop the implementation team and its roles and responsibilities.

Figure 1.

Whatcom Area Local Integrating Organization



References and Additional Resources

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http://www.cob.org/services/environment/index.aspx

City of Blaine, Water Conservation Programs
http://www.cityofblaine.com/index.aspx?NID=383

City of Everson Planning Documents
http://www.ci.everson.wa.us/COEPublicationsDoc.html

City of Ferndale, State of Schell Creek Watershed
http://www.cityofferndale.org/story.php?sid=1539

City of Lynden Shoreline Management Program
http://www.lyndenwa.org/?page_id=86

City of Nooksack Shoreline Master Plan Update
http://www.cityofnooksack.com/projects.htm

City of Sumas Shoreline Master Plan Update
http://cityofsumas.homestead.com/Current-Projects.html

Lake Whatcom Watershed Management
http://www.lakewhatcom.whatcomcounty.org/home

Lummi Nation Natural Resources Programs
http://lnnr.lummi-nsn.gov/LummiWebsite/

Marine Resources Committee Whatcom County Programs
http://www.whatcom-mrc.whatcomcounty.org/MRC/index.htm#

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association
http://www.n-sea.org/

Nooksack Tribe Natural Resources Programs
http://nooksackindiantribe.org/departments/natural-resources/

Northwest Economic Council Whatcom County - Whatcom County Economic Strategy:
http://www.nwecon.org/resources/economic-strategy

Northwest Straits Whatcom MRC
http://www.nwstraits.org/MRCs/MRC-Info-Meetings/Whatcom.aspx

Port of Bellingham Environmental Programs
http://www.portofbellingham.com/index.aspx?nid=92

Public Utility District No. 1 Natural Resource Programs
http://www.pudwhatcom.org/services

ReSources' North Sound Baykeeper Program
http://www.re-sources.org/programs/baykeeper

Washington State Department of Ecology Programs
http://www.ecy.wa.gov/ecyhome.html

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Programs
http://wdfw.wa.gov/

Whatcom Conservation District Programs
http://www.whatcomcd.org/programs

Whatcom County Natural Resources Special Projects and Shoreline Management Program
http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/pds/naturalresources/specialprojects.jsp

Whatcom Farm Friends
http://www.wcfarmfriends.com/go/site/1579/

Whatcom Land Trust
http://www.whatcomlandtrust.org/

Whatcom Watersheds Information Network Programs
http://whatcomwin.org/index.html

WRIA 1 2010 State of the Watershed Report
http://wria1project.whatcomcounty.org/56.aspx

WRIA 1 Salmonid Recovery Plan
http://whatcomsalmon.whatcomcounty.org/action-processes-recoveryplan.html
(*The WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery website is being updated and will be launched spring 2012*)

WRIA 1 Watershed Management Plan-Phase 1
http://wria1project.whatcomcounty.org/Resource-Library/Guiding-Documents-And-Plans/64.aspx

WSU Whatcom County Extension Environmental Programs and Services
http://whatcom.wsu.edu/environ/environment.htm

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http://www.bellingham.org/activities/bird-watching/

http://www.whatcomcounty.us/pds/pdf/planning/projects/birchbay/finalplan/j-6shore.pdf